

Wycombe slip in hard tussle at Kingston

Sports Mail Special Report

KINGSTONIAN 5 : WYCOMBE W. 3

A FAST and direct Kingstonian team took full advantage of Wycombe's defence weaknesses at Kingston this afternoon, and built up a 3-1 interval lead. The Wanderers were far too casual—a sad anti-climax after their Cup battles.

Kingstonian : Groves; Davies, Bird; Richards, Ashworth, Gilson; Fonda-
dyke, Martin, Taylor, Lindsay, Oakes

Wycombe Wan : Brown; D. Worley,
Atkins; Thomas, Fisher, Beck; Bates,
L. Worley, Bressington, Holmes,
Tomlin.

Referee : R. W. Rush (Barking)

Sixteen-year-old Steve Hyde, Wycombe's left winger who was injured in the cup match against Kettering Town, was declared unfit before the game, and veteran Jack Tomlin took his place.

Within 30 seconds Wycombe had the ball in their opponent's net. Kingstonians—who opened with only ten men—were caught flat-footed as Bates shot. Groves could only push the ball away for BRESSINGTON to tap a simple goal.

Kingstonian, now with a full side, retaliated. Six-foot centre forward Taylor, a former full back, was tripped in the penalty area, and GILSON equalised from the spot.

The lively home forwards kept Wycombe at full stretch. When Brown pushed out Taylor's shot, MARTIN ran on to a loose ball to put K's into an eight-minute lead.

With Worley and Bates combining neatly, Wanderers played the more attractive soccer, but Kingstonian were the more go-ahead side.

Wycombe nearly scored a surprise equaliser when Tomlin's blocked drive rebounded luckily into Groves' arms.

Tricky International Hugh Lindsay, who was having a

great duel with young Dave Thomas, broke away fast and Atkins banged the ball away in the nick of time.

Ten minutes from the interval MARTIN scored Kingstonian's third goal after running through unchecked.

Half-time: Kingstonian 3, Wycombe 1.

Still playing the more aggressive football, Kingstonian made Wycombe's defence look very brittle, especially in the centre. Brown flung himself hopefully through the air when a first-time volley from FONDYKE scorched into the net.

"Wake up Wycombe" shouted one despondent supporter, but there was little response from the dispirited looking forward line in which Worley was now playing on the right wing.

Wanderers did find some of their missing fire when BRESSINGTON was on the spot to make the score 4-2 in the 70th minute following Worley's corner kick.

Kingstonians still had the game well under control but squandered opportunities of increasing their lead.

With Paul Bates playing at centre forward Wycombe looked much more lively. No sooner had MARTIN scored Kingstonian's fifth goal than Wycombe dashed upfield to reply when HOLMES headed in Tomlin's flag kick.

RESULT

**KINGSTONIAN 5
WYCOMBE WANDERERS 3**